



Corrections News

The Alabama Department of Corrections

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HURDLING OUR ADOC OBSTACLES

BY BRIAN CORBETT/PIO ADOC—

When the State of Alabama deprives someone of personal liberties through incarceration, the state also assumes full responsibility for that person during the time of confinement. Those responsibilities include providing a safe, secure and humane environment for inmates and employees alike, to provide health care, rehabilitative programs, and most importantly, to provide public safety. For decades, The Alabama Department of Corrections has struggled to completely fulfill its mission, due in large part to an inmate population explosion and a lack of adequate funding from the Alabama Legislature.

Don't get me wrong, ADOC does an outstanding job with what we've got!

But keep in mind, most everything we receive in terms of funding is a gift from the legislature. This Department also contributes approximately \$50 million annually to our operating budget through Alabama Correctional Industries, Work Release, phone and canteen commissions, grants and other means. ADOC employees are some the most well trained, dedicated and hard working corrections employees in the country. The ADOC ship would not keep sail without them. Trouble is, without adequate resources ADOC is severely impaired in terms of fulfilling our mission. Most importantly, safety is jeopardized. Safety for inmates, safety for the general public and safety for our staff, the men and women who are sworn to protect and risk their lives every day.

Media outlets in Alabama have called conditions in Alabama's prisons a "disgrace", conditions the state's political leaders and citizens cannot continue to ignore. But why the crisis situation now?

For years, our inmate population has steadily grown while state funding failed to keep pace. In 1980 Alabama had 5,892 inmates. At one point in the summer of 2003,

ADOC's population reached an all time high of 28,440, including those inmates backlogged in county jails. Counties sued to have us remove inmates in a timely manner. ADOC faced federal lawsuits and is now under federal mandates regarding living conditions, healthcare and others. Currently, with almost 24,000 inmates living in house, ADOC lacks secure space for serious offenders. For decades, lawmakers have taken a tough stance on crime with a "lock-em up, throw away the key" mentality. Its obvious that excessive incarceration is very expensive. Alabama's bill for prisons is well past due.

However, we are making gains. Three years ago, in fiscal year 2002 our General Fund appropriation was \$197.4 million.

For FY 06 we requested \$530.8 million to include construction of two new

facilities, maintenance and infrastructure

repair, Community Corrections increases and

more. While at least one legislator called this a realistic request, the money is simply not available. Still, it is ADOC's responsibility to ask and make our realistic needs known, while it is the legislature's responsibility to provide funding. Governor Bob Riley has toured several ADOC facilities and seen first hand the obstacles we face. Governor Riley's FY 06 budget request includes \$304 million for corrections, which is a potential general fund increase of more than \$100 million from FY 02.

The Alabama Department of Corrections is a very frugal agency. We do not waste money. In fact, Alabama spends less per inmate, per year, than any other state in the southeast region. Tough decisions must be made regarding funding, sentencing reform and alternative forms of punishment. Ultimately, tax reform is necessary to aid the state's ailing General Fund. Based on current prison conditions and expected population increases, solving these problems will be expensive.



Prison Crowding Defies Easy Fixes

BY BRENDAN KIRBY STAFF REPORTER MOBILE REGISTER/2-28-05

The problems facing Alabama's overcrowded and underfunded prisons are too big, too complex and too long-lived to be fixed with any single solution, according to experts both inside and outside the system.

After Gov. Bob Riley pushed the early release of more than 4,000 inmates, Alabama's prisons remain nearly as overcrowded as they were when the governor launched the program almost two years ago.

Experts point to a number of other steps Alabama must take to get a handle on its overcrowding problem, including reforming sentences, expanding community-based corrections programs, improving supervision of people on parole and probation and building additional prisons.

"We're not going to solve the problem until we change the sentencing system," said Rosa Davis, the state's chief assistant attorney general and a member of the Alabama Sentencing Commission. "There's not enough gold in Fort Knox to build the prisons we'd have to have."

A big reason Alabama's prisons are so overcrowded is that the state doles out harsher punishments than most other states. The state has the nation's fifth-highest incarceration rate and the 11th-longest sentences imposed, according to the Bureau of Justice Statistics. It ranks 14th in the country in actual time spent behind bars.

Joseph Colquitt, a retired judge who chairs the Sentencing Commission, said prison terms in Alabama run long because judges and prosecutors lack confidence in the system. Judges often hand down much longer sentences than they believe are justified, he said, in an attempt to compensate for the time off prisoners get for good behavior and parole.

"No one knows how long someone is going to serve. So they try to calculate what they think will happen," Colquitt said. "The problem is, he might go down to the penitentiary and not get paroled."

Statistics show that Alabama locks up a great number of drug offenders. Of the state's current prisoners, 43.6 percent committed either a property or a drug offense. Crimes against individuals account for 51.6 percent of inmates.

According to a 2003 Sentencing Commission report looking at the state's inmates admitted from fiscal years 1999 through 2002, the last detailed examination of the prison population, the most common felony for which prisoners were sentenced was drug possession. Second-degree theft and DUI ranked No. 2 and 3, respectively.

Alabama ranked second to Alaska in the percentage of prisoners undergoing drug and alcohol treatment, a fact that some experts said suggests the state is locking up people who should be in community-based treatment programs.

Brian Corbett, a spokesman for the Department of Corrections, said about 1,500 inmates are on a waiting list to get into substance-abuse programs because there are not enough counselors or classes to meet the demand.

"You can only have so many prisons and so many beds. What are you going to use them for?" Colquitt asked. "Are you going to reserve them for violent offenders? If so, you need some other way to address the nonviolent offenders."

But Patrick Halliday, a University of Alabama professor who spent 10 years as a warden in the prison system, said he worries that early paroles will free inmates before they have been able to kick drug and alcohol addictions.

"Most of these are going to need the programs we offer. ... And we're not go-

ing to be able to do it because we just don't have enough time," he said.

More than crime

It's not just crime that fuels Alabama's prison population. Many of the inmates who leave on parole are destined to return. About a third of those whose paroles have been revoked since the end of April 2003 did not commit new crimes. They violated other terms of their parole.

In exchange for the privilege of parole, released prisoners must keep jobs, maintain contact with parole officers and stay off drugs. Failure to comply with the rules can result in a parole revocation, sending the parolee back to prison to serve the balance of his original sentence.

Reform advocates said the parole board members and officers should have much slower trigger fingers when dealing with these so-called "technical" violators.

"It's so expensive to continue to supervise dope addicts who may get sent back to prison for dirty urine," said Davis, the chief assistant attorney general and Sentencing Commission member.

Parole officers said they have cut their clients more slack over the past year and a half. However, they added, the system will break down if parolees learn there are no consequences for skirting the requirements of their release.

Take Juanita Bettis. She could be the poster child for reform advocates who believe the criminal justice system wastes prison space on people with addiction problems. She was convicted in 1992 of receiving stolen property.

After she was given probation, a judge revoked it in 1995 for failing a drug test. Sent back to prison, she won parole in 1999 and moved back to Mobile. Authorities revoked her parole in 2001 after she was charged with passing bad checks and escaping from custody.

The parole board gave Bettis another shot at freedom in early 2003, but a failed drug test in June of that year sent her back to prison again.

The board reinstated Bettis' parole, revoked it again in January 2004 after she failed a drug test and reinstated it late last year.

"She is the classic example of overcrowding. She's a nonviolent offender," said Roderick Davis, Bettis' parole officer. "She's being sent to rehab rather than being punished."

But if community-based drug treatment proves ineffective, Davis said, prison is the only alternative.

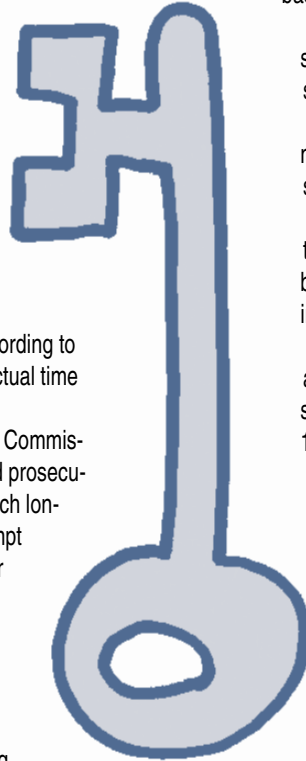
"I only have so many options. I have no choice but to lock her up," he said. "I want to see her do good, but the addiction problem she has is strong."

Bettis, whose parole was reinstated again in November, said she has struggled since she became addicted to cocaine as a teenager. Her most recent problems stem from stress caused by her husband's fatal bout with cancer, she said.

The 39-year-old grandmother said her addiction has been costly. After being paroled again in November, she has found work with a temporary employment agency and hopes to land a job as a chef at the restaurant where she worked before going back to prison.

Bettis said she has had no drug cravings since she got out the last time, and she said she's passed all of her drug tests. And now, she has an added incentive to stay clean -- she's pregnant.

Bettis said she plans to make up for lost time with her four children and six grandchildren as she plows toward May 6, 2006 -- the date she gets off of parole.



"I missed a lot of years of my children's life. I'm mature now, and I have a daughter who's 18 and in the last year of school. And I missed it," she said. "Being in prison gave me a chance to think."

Norwood, the Mobile County parole officer, said she has been slower to recommend revocation for rules violations. But, she said, she generally sticks to a two-strike policy.

When parole officers are too lenient, she said, public safety suffers. Rules violations send a troubling signal that a parolee is about to commit new crimes.

"If he doesn't fear me enough to follow my rules, he's definitely not going to fear the police," she said.

Reforming sentences

The Legislature created the Sentencing Commission in 2000 to develop guidelines for sentencing and recommend changes to lawmakers.

A few of the commission's recommendations already have gone into effect. The Legislature in 2003, for example, raised the threshold for making theft a felony.

Under the previous law, stealing items worth as little as \$250 made the crime a felony punishable by up to 10 years in prison. Under the new law, thefts are misdemeanor offenses unless the stolen items are worth at least \$500. The threshold for Class B felony theft, punishable by a prison term of two to 20 years, increased from \$1,000 to \$2,500.

Other changes have proven more controversial, however. In April, the commission recommended voluntary sentencing guidelines in an attempt to standardize punishments throughout the state. But the Legislature so far has not adopted the recommendations, which would promote shorter prison sentences for some types of offenses.

The commission analyzed sentencing practices for 27 different types of offenses. The proposed guidelines called for dropping the minimum possible sentence ranges for drug crimes by 30 percent and minimum sentences for property crimes by 20 percent. For certain drug felonies, one to 10 years would be tightened to a range of 13 to 65 months.

Sentence lengths for crimes such as murder, rape and robbery would remain about the same.

The standards would be strictly voluntary. Judges still would be able to impose any prison term within the law but would be asked to fill out paperwork explaining their decisions.

Sentencing Commission members took failure during the last legislative session as a blessing in disguise, giving them more time to fine-tune the guidelines and prepare for the upcoming session.

The commission put on a dozen workshops for judges throughout the state and also ran pilot programs in three jurisdictions, DeKalb, Montgomery and Jefferson counties, asking judges to sentence defendants as usual and fill out a worksheet to compare the punishments they imposed with the ranges in the proposed guidelines.

Flynt, the commission's executive director, said analysts are still studying the results of the pilot programs. "All we had before was anecdotal stories about sentencing practices. Now we've got the data," she said.

Getting judges to alter sentencing practices on a voluntary basis may prove prohibitively difficult, warned Allen Tapley, who served 14 years as director of the state Administrative Office of Courts.

Tapley recalled working doggedly as director of the court system to maintain a balance between new inmates entering prisons each month and those leaving. He said he regularly sent memos to judges and even telephoned them person-

ally in an attempt to keep the punishments they imposed more or less in line with their colleagues.

That and the advent of more alternative sentencing programs designed to keep some offenders out of penitentiaries did work -- for a while. But, he said, keeping that balance is difficult over the long haul.

"It takes all cylinders working, all at the same time, to maintain the same pace," he said. "We've used everything known to man to try to solve this problem."

The governor's release plan involved creating a special docket of nonviolent cases for the parole board to consider ahead of schedule, beginning at the end of April 2003. In December of that year, he appointed three additional parole board members to reduce a backlog of cases.

Although the number of inmates paroled over the last two years has jumped dramatically as a result of Riley's actions, new prisoners have arrived almost as fast. In April 2003, the state's prison population stood at 28,338. Today, it is 27,255, a decrease of 1,083.

"You're going to definitely have to have more prisons built. You're not going to solve this problem simply by having more early releases," said Lynda Flynt, executive director of the Sentencing Commission. "When we're at 185 percent capacity, I don't think that's going to be the solution."

Prisons are the most expensive component of the criminal justice system, however.

The state has not built a new one since 1997. A master plan for the prison system prepared by Carter Goble Associates in March 2003 shows why. The consulting firm estimated the cost of building enough prisons to ensure a bed for every inmate at \$933.7 million.

For a state prison system so short on funds that it doesn't supply napkins to its inmates,

that's an almost unthinkable amount of cash, and Department of Corrections spokesman Brian Corbett noted that it doesn't include the money that would be needed to meet future needs.

"The reality is not Dollar One has been budgeted for any new construction," he said. "You want to be tough on crime, and you want to incarcerate people, but you don't want to pay for it."

That leaves legislators and other policymakers to grapple with other options. Safety net

One way to cut down on the prison population is to reduce the number who return after serving time behind bars. By national standards, Alabama does relatively little to help ex-cons succeed, according to advocates and government officials.

On release day, an Alabama prisoner gets \$10, a set of clothes and a bus ticket.

"It's pretty stark. If you put yourself in their situation, you can understand how hard that is," said Denis Devane, who helps ex-cons make the transition back to regular life as a volunteer with the Birmingham chapter of Prison Fellowship. "Even going to McDonald's and looking at that menu up there and suddenly having choices, even that can be traumatic for some guys that have been in a long time."

As paroles have increased, so has the number of parolees. To try to keep track of them all, the state boosted spending for parole and probation officers. State spending on the office for this fiscal year -- \$24.3 million -- is more than 63 percent higher than it was two years ago, making it one of the few agencies in state government to see a significant budget increase.

The extra money allowed the department to hire 66 new parole and probation officers over the last two years, bringing the total to more than 277 statewide. Cynthia Dillard, the assistant executive director of the Board of Pardons and Pa-

"There's not enough gold in Fort Knox to build the prisons we'd have to have."

—Rosa Davis, the state's chief assistant attorney general and a member of the Alabama Sentencing Commission

High Court Ends Death Penalty For Youths

WASHINGTON (AP) BY HOPE YEN/ 3/1/2005—

A closely divided Supreme Court ruled Tuesday that it's unconstitutional to execute juvenile killers, ending a practice in 19 states that has been roundly condemned by many of America's closest allies.

The 5-4 decision throws out the death sentences of 72 murderers who were under 18 when they committed their crimes and bars states from seeking to execute minors for future crimes.

The executions, the court said, violate the Eighth Amendment ban on cruel and unusual punishment.

"The age of 18 is the point where society draws the line for many purposes between childhood and adulthood. It is, we conclude, the age at which the line for death eligibility ought to rest," Justice Anthony Kennedy wrote.

The ruling continues the court's practice of narrowing the scope of the death penalty, which justices reinstated in 1976. Executions for those 15 and younger when they committed their crimes were outlawed in 1988. Three years ago justices banned death sentences for the mentally retarded.

Tuesday's ruling prevents states from making 16- and 17-year-olds eligible for execution.

As a result, officials in Prince William County, Va., said Tuesday they will not prosecute a murder case there against teen sniper Lee Boyd Malvo, who is already serving life in prison in two of the 10 sniper killings that terrorized the Washington area in 2002. Prince William County Commonwealth's Attorney Paul Ebert had hoped to get the death penalty for Malvo, who was 17 at the time of the killings, but said another trial would now be an unnecessary expense.

Juvenile offenders have been put to death in recent years in only a few other countries, including Iran, Pakistan, China and Saudi Arabia. Kennedy cited international opposition to the practice.

"It is proper that we acknowledge the overwhelming weight of international opinion against the juvenile death penalty, resting in large part on the understanding that the instability and emotional imbalance of young people may often be a factor in the crime," he wrote.

Kennedy noted most states don't allow the execution of juvenile killers and those that do use the penalty infrequently. The trend, he said, is to abolish the practice because "our society views juveniles ... as categorically less culpable than the average criminal."

In a dissent, Justice Antonin Scalia disputed that there is a trend and chastised his colleagues for taking power from the states.

"The court says in so many words that what our people's laws say about the issue does not, in the last analysis, matter: 'In the end our own judgment will be brought to bear on the question of the acceptability of the death penalty,'" he wrote.

"The court thus proclaims itself sole arbiter of our nation's moral standards," Scalia wrote.

Death penalty opponents quickly cheered the ruling.

"Today, the court repudiated the misguided idea that the United States can pledge to leave no child behind while simultaneously exiling children to the death chamber," said William F. Schulz, executive director of Amnesty International USA.

"Now the U.S. can proudly remove its name from the embarrassing list of

human rights violators that includes China, Iran, and Pakistan that still execute juvenile offenders," he said.

Dianne Clements, president of the Houston-based Justice for All victims' advocacy group, criticized the decision and said she hopes that when there is a Supreme Court vacancy a strong death penalty supporter is nominated.

"The Supreme Court has opened the door for more innocent people to suffer by 16 and 17 year olds," she said. "I can't wait for the Supreme Court to have judges more concerned with American values, American statutes and American law than what the Europeans think."

The Supreme Court has permitted states to impose capital punishment since 1976. Twenty-two of the people put to death since then were juveniles when they committed their crimes. Texas executed the most, 13, and also has the most on death row now — 29.

More than 3,400 inmates await execution in the 38 states that allow death sentences.

Justices were called on to draw an age line for executions after Missouri's highest court overturned the death sentence given to Christopher Simmons, who was 17 when he kidnapped a neighbor, hog-tied her and threw her off a bridge in 1993. Prosecutors say he planned the burglary and killing of Shirley Crook and bragged that he could get away with it because of his age.

The four most liberal Supreme Court justices — John Paul Stevens, David H. Souter, Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Stephen Breyer — had gone on record in 2002 opposing the death penalty for juveniles, calling it "shameful." Those four, joined by Kennedy, formed Tuesday's decision.

Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist and Justice Clarence Thomas joined Scalia in seeking to uphold the executions.

Justice Sandra Day O'Connor filed a separate dissent, arguing that a blanket rule against juvenile executions was misguided. Case-by-case determinations of a young offenders' maturity is the better approach, she wrote.

"The court's analysis is premised on differences in the aggregate between juveniles and adults, which frequently do not hold true when comparing individuals," she said. "Chronological age is not an unfailing measure of psychological development, and common experience suggests that many 17-year-olds are more mature than the average young 'adult.'"

The 19 states allow executions for people under age 18 are Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Utah, Texas and Virginia.

The federal government does not execute juveniles.

"Now the U.S. can proudly remove its name from the embarrassing list of human rights violators that includes China, Iran, and Pakistan that still execute juvenile offenders,"

—William F. Schulz, executive director of Amnesty International USA.

Court Ruling Sets Aside Death Sentences For 13 Alabama Inmates



BY SAMIRA JAFARI/ 3/1/2005/ MONTGOMERY, ALA. (AP) — Mark Anthony Duke and Brandon Samra were sent to Alabama's death row for a 1997 crime committed when Duke was 16 and Samra was 19 — the gruesome killing of Duke's father, two little girls and their mother at a Shelby County home.

According to trial testimony, Duke shot the adults and cut one of the girls' throats because he was angry his father refused to let him use his pickup truck. Samra was accused of helping Duke and cutting the other girl's throat.

Because of their ages at the time, a U.S. Supreme Court decision Tuesday banning the execution of juvenile murderers will spare Duke from execution, while Samra will remain under a death sentence.

"It's a shocking decision for the Supreme Court to draw an arbitrary line making killers less culpable because of their age," said Clay Crenshaw, chief of the attorney general's capital litigation division. "To excuse this conduct should really shock the conscience of this country."

The court's 5-4 decision vacates the death sentences of Duke and 12 others on Alabama's death row, who were 16- or 17-years-old at the time of their crimes.

The court's decision also means Lee Boyd Malvo can no longer face the death penalty for his role in the 2002 sniper shootings in the Washington area, Alabama and Louisiana. Malvo, who was 17 at the time, is accused in the shooting death of a liquor store manager in Montgomery on Sept. 21, 2002.

Montgomery County District Attorney Ellen Brooks said Tuesday that she still plans to prosecute Malvo. "I'm just waiting my turn," Brooks said.

"It just emphasizes one reason why this decision was so wrong," Crenshaw said. "Malvo can be prosecuted for capital murder but he won't be subject to the death penalty because this ruling draws an arbitrary line."

Death penalty opponents praised the high court's decision, arguing that a life sentence without parole is sufficient punishment for teen killers. Inmates released from death row under Tuesday's ruling will automatically be sentenced to serve life without parole.

"It's no picnic to look at life without parole, so people need to stop acting like this is some great gift to juveniles who now have to reconcile themselves in

prison," said Bryan Stevenson, director of the Montgomery-based Equal Justice Initiative.

The high court had reviewed a Missouri case in which the state Supreme Court struck down a juvenile's death sentence on the basis that executing him would be unconstitutional. The Missouri court found that it is cruel and unusual punishment to execute someone who committed a murder before turning 18.

Prior to the ruling, Alabama Attorney General Troy King filed a brief asking the U.S. Supreme Court to overturn the Missouri decision. King said Alabama and other states should have the right to consider the individual circumstances surrounding a capital murder and determine, on a case-by-case basis, whether the death penalty is the appropriate sentence.

The Alabama brief was supported by Delaware, Oklahoma, Texas, Utah and Virginia.

"I am deeply disappointed with today's ruling and its failure to recognize that the removal of this deterrent from prosecutors in our land will likely lead to more tragedy, to more brutality and to more victims," King said Tuesday.

Stevenson said special consideration should be taken when sentencing juveniles, because they are still developing socially, mentally and physically. He said age is considered in drinking and voting laws because maturity is a factor, so it should also play a role in deciding

criminal cases.

"What makes them less culpable, unlike adults, is that these are folks who are changing," he said, noting that a juvenile's behavior during teenage years is not a clear indicator of how he will behave as an adult.

State Sen. Hank Sanders, D-Selma, introduced a bill Tuesday to raise the execution age in Alabama to 18, which would put the state's law in line with the court's ruling. Sanders had the bill drafted and planned to introduce it prior to the high court's ruling.

Crenshaw said that age is already considered during capital murder trials, with only the most heinous of crimes ending in death sentences. Most of Alabama's juvenile death row inmates were motivated by money and material greed when killing, he said.

"That's for a jury and a judge to decide," Crenshaw said. "Certainly age can and should be considered. But just because a killer is of a certain age and can no longer be subject to the

death penalty is just plain ridiculous."

Alabama Department of Corrections spokesman Brian Corbett said the prisons would wait to receive individual court orders before releasing juvenile death row inmates into the general population.

"It's no picnic to look at life without parole, so people need to stop acting like this is some great gift to juveniles who now have to reconcile themselves in prison." —Bryan Stevenson, director of the Montgomery-based Equal Justice Initiative.

"What makes them less culpable, unlike adults, is that these are folks who are changing." —Bryan Stevenson



State Prison Crisis Cannot Be Solved By Money Alone

TUSCALOOSA NEWS/1-23-05—

Alabama's growing prison crisis cannot be contained by poultices and bandages. At this point, the only real hope for addressing it is a radical change of approach to sentencing and funding.

The prognosis is not good, judging from comments at a legislative budget hearing on the Department of Corrections last week.

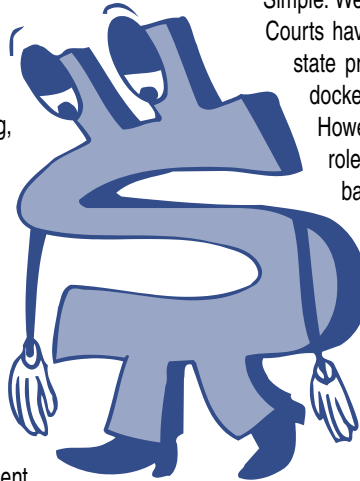
Corrections Commissioner Donal Campbell told the lawmakers that the DOC needs to double its budget to \$580 million just to keep up with the growing number of inmates, hire enough people to guard them and repair aging, rundown facilities.

He also told them that money alone would not solve the prison problems. Unless the state changes its sentencing laws, the problems will continue to grow, he said.

But the tepid response from the lawmakers, scrambling to find a way to plug a projected shortfall of nearly \$300 million in the General Fund, made it clear that more money for prisons is barely a blip on a lengthy list of priorities.

State Sen. Roger Bedford, D-Russellville, questioned if the DOC is spending its money wisely. Campbell, to his credit, chose to ignore the hypocrisy of this comment from the king of pork barrel spending in the Legislature and let the facts speak for themselves.

The DOC is trying to cram about 23,700 inmates in facilities designed to hold half as many. At the same time, it employs about half the number of guards that safety standards require. The staffing is so thin that on some shifts, the ratio of guards to prisoners is 1 to 118, Campbell said.



Meanwhile, DOC is facing a \$4 million bill to cover maintenance, repairs and the cost of settling federal lawsuits.

The wonder is how the department has done as well as it has with its parsimonious budget. Campbell had a blunt answer when Bedford pressed him on which DOC asks for big funding increases each year:

"Simple. We're never fully fronted on the front end."

Courts have ordered the DOC to relieve crowded conditions and remove state prisoners from county jails. The state responded with a special docket to speed up parole hearings and, initially, conditions improved. However, the rate of incarceration has outpaced the speeded-up parole process and county jails are becoming crowded again, with a backlog of 225 inmates awaiting transfer.

That is no surprise. "Get tough" policies on crime and sentencing have given Alabama the nation's fifth highest incarceration rate. Yet as two-year college chancellor Roy Johnson commented wryly at the budget hearing, the state is not any safer for all the inmates it has locked away.

He suggested more training programs, and Campbell again pleaded for sentencing reform, saying the space crunch will continue to grow without it.

But while state Rep. John Knight, D-Montgomery, agreed that "something has to be done," he told Campbell that the money he is seeking is simply "not in the picture."

Here is what is in the picture: dangerously crowded state prisons, backlogged county jails, a new round of lawsuits and fines that the state cannot afford to pay.

Inflated budget requests are not unusual from department chiefs in January, but Campbell is not blowing smoke. The prison crisis is real.

The Incredible Shrinking Dollar

By Barbara Holly, CDM, CFPP—

We have all heard of the Incredible Shrinking Man. He is an imaginary character from several years ago. Well, I believe that our dollar is starting to become imaginary and is shrinking out of sight. Most of us who manage non-commercial foodservice operations have had to deal with decreasing budgets, and as we all know, when budgets have to be cut, foodservices are the first place upper management looks to start making those cuts.

What are Food Service Directors to do? We already wear many hats, and now we must be Magicians! Many of us have learned to do more with less for so long that we are now qualified to do everything with nothing!

We have put Band-Aids on equipment that needed major surgery in order to get a few more meals out of it. Our foodservice equipment works approximately sixteen hours a day, 365 days a year with "no time off for good behavior." In the last five years we have spent \$570,600 on foodservice equipment. That isn't a lot when you consider that this amount represented equipment expenditures for 30 facilities.

Over-crowding is a major problem in most prisons throughout the United States. We have prisons that are barely fifteen years old and already house double the designed capacity for inmates. We woefully need new prisons but are told that the money is just not there. Along with that issue is the problem of shortage or personnel. We sometimes have two correctional officers in a dormi-

tory with 260 inmates.

Lack of proper funding is one of many challenges faced by Corrections. A lack of personnel, both security and support, causes problems as well. Under-staffed officers sometimes work 16-hour shifts, often including mandatory overtime. Employee burnout and retention are dilemmas constantly faced by State Correctional Departments.

How do we solve this dilemma and make our imaginary dollar real? Most state agencies that work out of the General Fund receive federal funds, Correctional Departments do not. Most Correctional Departments operate with budgeted monies from the General Fund with no additional monies. Legislators have GOT to look at ways to make the General Fund "healthier." Taxpayers have got to realize that you can't "lock'em up and throw away the key" without providing the money to do so. They also need to realize that the inmate in prison today could be their next-door neighbor tomorrow.

The tax structure in our state and many others is woefully inadequate. State Agencies are not given proper funding, and there are equipment needs and projects that do not get done because there isn't enough money. Legislators need to realize that our state's financial health is much more important than their being re-elected. Until they do, big corporations and big landowners will be responsible for keeping regressive tax systems in place, and we will continue to look for magical ways to keep our dollars from shrinking.

Governor Riley's Budget Gaining More Support

MONTGOMERY - Governor Bob Riley's budget proposals picked up another key endorsement on Thursday, this time from the Chamber of Commerce Association of Alabama - a group that represents 120 Chambers of Commerce across the state and their 50,000 business members. The board of directors of the group voted unanimously to endorse the General Fund and Education Trust Fund budgets submitted by the Governor.

"The budgets I've sent to the Legislature are fair, balanced and invest more money in education than ever before in Alabama's history," Governor Riley said. "Legislators should listen to the growing number of citizens, teachers and business leaders who strongly support the balanced budgets I've presented. Paul Hubbert wants to divert funding from the classroom to pay for a bigger pay raise for bus drivers, cafeteria workers and other education employees. My education budget invests more in our classrooms and provides for an affordable pay raise that doesn't take money away from classrooms."

In endorsing Governor Riley's budgets, the CCAA joins with nine of the past 11 Alabama Teachers of the Year who announced yesterday they support the Governor's education budget and the Business Associations' Tax Coalition, which announced last week it endorses the Governor's budgets. The tax coalition is comprised of 31 business and trade associations representing virtually every segment of Alabama's business community.

Below is the text of a news release sent out today by the Chamber of Commerce Association of Alabama announcing its endorsement:

Chamber of Commerce Association of Alabama Endorses Riley Budget Proposal

MONTGOMERY - FEBRUARY 24, 2005 - The board of directors of the Chamber of Commerce Association of Alabama (CCAA), which represents some 120 chambers of commerce and their nearly 50,000 member businesses across Alabama, voted unanimously Wednesday to endorse the General and Education Trust Fund budgets submitted to the Alabama Legislature by Gov. Bob Riley.

In its endorsement, CCAA joins with the Business Associations' Tax Coal-

tion, which is comprised of 31 other business and trade associations representing virtually every segment of Alabama's business community, in support of the governor's balanced budget proposals.

"We feel these proposals bring both common sense and sound business sense to the table," said CCAA Chairman of the Board Victor Cross, President of the Phenix City/Russell County Chamber of Commerce. "We believe that sound government begins at home, and look forward to the local Chamber's roles in advancing policy that helps strengthen the future for Alabama business and industry."

Among other things, the governor's budget, now pending before the Alabama Legislature, funds education at the highest level ever in Alabama, provides for a well-deserved and affordable pay raise for Alabama teachers and other education support workers, and funds a state-of-the-art distance learning program that will give every child in every school access to the classes and curriculum they need to compete.

"This issue is important to business because it's a matter of preparing our work force for the future. As employers, it's our responsibility to stand up for our future employees and help ensure that the resources they need to compete get to the classroom where they need them the most," Cross said. "We endorsed the governor's budget because it accomplishes that; it adequately funds other essential state services, and it requires no new taxes on businesses or individuals."

During a conference call with CCAA's Board of Directors, Riley thanked the members for their commitment to strengthening Alabama, and reminded them that local Chambers often serve "as the grassroots voice for the children and the parents" whose interests are frequently overlooked in Montgomery.

CCAA will work with local chambers across Alabama to provide additional detailed information about the proposed budgets, the legislative budget-making process, and other information of significance to their members in making informed decisions as Alabama lawmakers address Alabama's funding needs.

For more information, contact the Governor's Press Office at 334-242-7150.

Agency Directors Confirm that Governor's Budget Uses Education Funds Only for Education

MONTGOMERY - Directors of seven different state agencies told members of a Senate committee on Tuesday that the education funding they will receive under Governor Bob Riley's budget will be used for education-related expenditures.

Governor Riley has said the increased education funding he proposes in his budget will be used only for educational activities. The directors of these seven agencies confirmed that Governor Riley's budget spends Education Trust Fund dollars for education-related needs.

After hearing from the seven agency heads and asking questions, members of the Senate Fiscal Accountability and Responsibility Committee voted to agree with the Governor's determination that the funding will go toward legitimate education expenses.

"The budget I've proposed ensures that all education activities are paid with

only education dollars. Anyone who tries to say my budget diverts funding from education is flat-out wrong. These agency directors told the committee that today," Governor Riley said.

Governor Riley has proposed a balanced budget that contains no new taxes and provides for a record amount of funding for education. Under his budget, all requests made by the K-12 system are fully funded. The Governor's budget also provides for a four percent teacher pay raise.

Officials from the following agencies spoke before the Senate committee today:

Department of Youth Services; Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation; Department of Rehabilitative Services; Department of Public Health; Department of Archives and History; Examiners of Public Accounts; Department of Human Resources.

All these agencies slated to receive funding from the Education Trust Fund (ETF) under Governor Riley's budget have received ETF funding for years.

For more information, contact the Governor's Press Office at 334-242-7150.



Bush Planning Trip To Montgomery To Promote Social Security Plan

BRIAN CORBETT/PIO ADOC/3-1-2005/MONTGOMERY, ALA. (AP)—

President Bush is planning a speech in Montgomery next week as part of a tour to promote his plan to restructure Social Security.

Republicans familiar with the plans said Tuesday that Bush would be arriving in Montgomery on the afternoon of March 10 after attending a town meeting in another state that morning.

The session, on the campus of Auburn University Montgomery, will focus on Social Security and be restricted to ticket holders.

Lee Bridges, a spokesman for AUM, said the university has been asked to reserve its gymnasium, but nothing is definite. The gymnasium seats 4,025 people when chairs are placed on the basketball court, Bridges said.

Bush would be the first president to speak at AUM. He spoke at Auburn's main campus on Oct. 24, 2002, to promote several Republican candidates, including U.S. Rep. Mike Rogers, whose congressional district includes both campuses of Auburn.

Rogers has applauded the president for addressing Social Security's solvency, but he has not endorsed the president's proposal of allowing younger workers to place some of the money they now pay for Social Security into personal retirement accounts.

State Rep. Mike Hubbard, R-Auburn, minority leader in the Alabama House, said he had learned of Bush's planned visit and was already contacting Republican legislators about attending the event.



ESGR

Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve

The Alabama Department of Corrections participates in historical Statement of Support signing for the Alabama National Guard and Reserve in Montgomery

ARLINGTON, VA (JANUARY 14, 2005) – The National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), an agency of the Department of Defense, announced today that Mr. Donal Campbell, (ADOC), and forty-nine Alabama Corrections Officials made history when they signed Statements of Support for the National Guard and Reserve on Friday, in the Alabama Capitol Auditorium in Montgomery.

According to Bob Hollingsworth, Executive Director of ESGR, "This is the largest mass signing of Statements of Support by any private or public employer in history. ESGR is honored to stand with Alabama Governor Bob Riley, Alabama Attorney General Troy King, and Alabama State Auditor Beth Chapman in saluting Commissioner Campbell and Alabama's Department of Corrections in this historic event."

"The Alabama Department of Corrections is joining a growing cadre of State Governors, Federal Agencies, Fortune 500 companies, and thousands of American Employers who have pledged support for our troops", Said Hollingsworth. "A Statement of Support serves two very vital functions: First, it demonstrates the strong level of support for our Guard and Reserve, which is important during this critical time. Secondly, it sends a clear message to the service members that while they're serving their country, they do not have to worry about their civilian jobs."

Commissioner Campbell hopes this support signing will raise the level

of awareness in Alabama and in other states. "Just as ADOC employees are our most valuable assets, members of the Guard and Reserve are valuable assets to this country", said Campbell. "Each of these men and women are deserving of our continued support, whether in Alabama or any other state".

"This is a significant event not only for the Alabama Department of Corrections, but for all first responders and law enforcement organizations in Alabama", added Hollingsworth. "Law enforcement, corrections, and first responders employ the largest numbers of National Guardsmen and Reservists in the country."

The mission of the Alabama Department of Corrections is to confine, manage and provide rehabilitative programs for convicted felons in a safe, secure and humane environment, utilizing professionals who are committed to public safety and to the positive re entry of offenders into society.

In addition to the historical mass Statement of Support signing, Alabama State Auditor Beth Chapman received the prestigious ESGR Seven Seals Award from Ms. Joan McKinney, ESGR Alabama State Chair, for her patriotic speech at the 2003 Stand Up for America rally.

ESGR is a Department of Defense agency established in 1972 whose mission is to gain and maintain active support from all public and private employers for the men and women of the National Guard and Reserve as defined by demonstrated employer commitment to military service. ESGR volunteers provide free education, consultation, and if necessary mediation for employers of Guard and Reserve employees.

As the 1.2 million members of the National Guard and Reserve continue to perform an increasing number of unique missions within America's borders and beyond, ESGR will continue as the informational agency for the employers of America's Patriots. More information about ESGR Employer Outreach Programs and volunteer opportunities is available at www.esgr.mil, or by calling 800 336-4590.

A Visit by Keldrick Williams

By Ed Flynn

On Saturday, January 22, 2005, CO1 Allen Thomas had a guest speaker attend his Wellness Class; the speaker was Keldrick Williams. For those of us who follow football, we knew that Keldrick plays tailback for Alabama State University and that he had led them to the SWAC Championship. What we did not know but were about to find out, was what a great young man Keldrick is.

CO1 Thomas talked to us about stress, and how to deal with it in a prison environment. He compared prison with a war zone, never knowing from one minute to the next what to expect (firedrill, fight, lockdown, count, etc.) He reminded us to always think first, to react after you think, "How should I handle this? What are my options?" He went on to explain that stress has long term effects on our lives.

CO1 Thomas introduced Keldrick, and from the first moment he spoke you could tell he was glad to be with us. This was not just a favor he was doing; he wanted to share with us and also to listen to what we had to say.

He gave credit to his parents which is very refreshing as so many of us forget the sacrifices our parents make so that we can have everything we want. Keldrick's message was clear: (1) never let anyone pressure you, and (2) take care of yourself. He told us to always make our own decisions because as a man we are responsible for all our actions. Make a decision and don't look back, move forward. He shared that God plays a part in all of his major decisions; he stated that he always prayed before making a major decision. Taking care of yourself was something he stressed. Always eat right, get proper sleep, and practice, practice, and practice. Always go the extra mile and not just at working out, but

with your studies. Never let anyone tell you that you cannot do it.

Keldrick added that it is important to take advantage of all education that comes your way. He is a star athlete, but he knows that only a few will make it to the next level.

He spoke on stress, how no matter what you do or how successful you are, you will still have stress. The important thing to learn is how to deal with it. Do all you can and be satisfied; work hard, but leave the supplements alone.

After speaking, he opened the floor to questions, and he took time with each of us. In fact, after about an hour, Mr. Thomas asked if we needed to close it out. Keldrick stated that he would stay as long as there were questions. After the questions, he stayed and talked to anyone who wished to talk with him.

This is a young man who is in college, trying to keep his grades good, helping with some recruits at Alabama State, and still takes time out on a Saturday to spend it with a group of inmates whom he has never met.

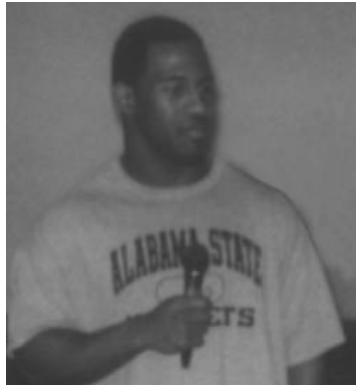
What we witnessed was a young man who wanted to be here, and who enjoyed helping and sharing with others. He knows that if not for the grace of God, he could have made the wrong choices and paid the price. One of the last questions he was asked was, what was his biggest

fear. His answer was disappointing his mother. What a great answer!

Keldrick Williams has a great chance of going on to the NFL "I hope to play for the Green Bay Packers" because of his talent, but also because he works hard, listens, and is coachable. But if for some reason he does not make it, the young man we all had the privilege of meeting on that Saturday, will be a success at whatever road he chooses.

The Lighthouse News will keep you updated each week as Keldrick plays his senior season this year.

Good luck, Keldrick, and thanks!



Commissioner Donal Campbell received the following letter from an inmate after American Commissary administered a successful holiday package program.

Re: Christmas Packages
January 1, 2005

Dear Commissioner Campbell:

I believe one could safely assume that you received few, and probably none, complaints from inmates or their family members relating to the 2004 Christmas package program you orchestrated. Simply put: the company you selected, their products and service, was "excellent".

All too often some people are quick to criticize ADOC. It would be interesting to know exactly how many of these naysayers offered their congratulations to you, and ADOC staff for a job well done with the 2004 inmate Christmas packages?

I'm only one of the 26,000+ inmates, but I do want to take a moment to personally thank you. Who knows, between God and you, you might even solve the prison overcrowding issue.

God bless you and yours this New Year.

Sincerely,

Alvin Daniels # 165590/ 100 Warrior Ln./ Bessemer, AL 35023

Around the State Facility News

ADOC Legal Division

I am pleased to announce that effective January 22, 2004, Greg Biggs will join Legal Division as an Attorney III. Greg graduated from the University of Alabama in Huntsville with a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice in 1980 and a law degree from Cumberland School of Law in 1985. Thereafter, he served as an Assistant District Attorney in the Morgan County District Attorney's Office. In 1998, he was appointed Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigations assigned to Tampa, Florida. In 1995, he relocated to Montgomery, Alabama as an Assistant Attorney General and worked in the Criminal Trials/White Collar Crime Division of the Office of the Attorney General. During this time, he was cross-designated as a Special Assistant United States Attorney in both the Northern and Southern Districts of Alabama. In 2001, he entered private law practice in Montgomery. Since October 2003, he has served as Associate General Counsel with the State Department of Education.

Alexander City CBF

◆Business Manager, Sharon Harrelson retired after 29 years of service.

◆Congratulations to Officer George Smith, Jr for winning a \$25 gift card to Wal-Mart at the Annual Christmas Luncheon.

◆A tree to commemorate our former Lieutenant Diana Harrison (died unexpectedly in November 2004) was purchased by donations from employees at the facility, and was planted on institutional property in her memory. The tree is an "Autumn Blaze" and a plaque was placed next to the tree.



Carol Lawhorn

◆We would like to welcome Business Manager, Carol Lawhorn, as she joins us from Staton Correctional Facility.

◆We welcome back Officer Damien Pearson from the Academy.

◆We are glad to have Officer Christopher Foreman back from military leave.

◆Congratulations to Earl Blake Turner on his promotion to Lieutenant.

◆We still have 2 officers that are military activated:

•Officer Yvette Young •Officer James Trimble

We hope that they will return soon.

◆ACCBF will have its first graduation for 2005 for 23 graduates. Alberta Reid, Drug Treatment Specialist from Staton CF, will be the guest speaker. Graduation will be held on Friday, February 18, 2005.

◆Congratulations to Officer Kevin Sasser, who received the Top Gun Award from the Training Division. He will receive a plaque.

◆Service Pins

•Officer Johnny Leonard-5 years

•Officer George Smith-10 years

•Steward Amy Barnett-15 years

Atmore CWC

◆Lt. Joseph Raines received his 30-year service pin; COI Lanetta Banks received her 5-year service pin.

◆Atmore CBF is now considered Atmore Community Work Camp. On December 11, 2004, all Level I inmates (work release inmates) were moved to Loxley, Mobile and Bullock County Work Release centers. Atmore CWC is now a Level II facility only with 250 beds.

◆A perimeter fence has been installed with future plans to construct a shakedown building. One security camera will be moved to view this area.

◆Atmore CWC is looking forward to welcoming Officer Brad Taylor back in March and Officer Kevin Bishop back in May 2005, from military duties.

◆Congratulations are in order on their graduation from Advanced Initial Training (AIT).

Bibb Correctional Facility

◆FITNESS CENTER

Warden Cheryl Price cuts the ribbon while other employees look on. The "official" opening on Wednesday, December 9, 2004 adds another dimension to employee incentives for better health. The employees view an orientation video for awareness of safety as well as proper usage of the equipment before signing an Agreement/Waiver to begin their "fitness" program.

The employees of BIBB enjoy the convenience of being able to work out before duty, after their tour of duty, and some can utilize this center during their lunch hour. Everyone agrees that this is very beneficial for a better physically fit group of employees running the BIBB Correctional Facility.

◆SERVICE PINS

◆15-Year service pins were awarded to Officer Michael J. Hubbard; Sergeant Larry E. Perry; Classification Specialist Cassandra Carlton; and Officer Blane L. Tindull.

◆10-Year service pins were awarded to Alvin Harris, Plant Maintenance Supervisor II and Lieutenant Ronald England.

◆5-Year service pins were awarded to Officer Raymond Anderson, Officer Paul F. Hill, Officer Tommy M. Sanford; and James O. Lewis, Drug Treatment Counselor.

◆J.F. Ingram Special Services

BIBB will be setting up 3 doublewide trailers for six classrooms. They will be used for adult education and special program classes. This will be a welcome addition for the J. F. Ingram instructors and their inmate students. ABE reported two inmates passed their GED Test in January.

◆CONGRATULATIONS

BIBB Training Center would like to congratulate Officer Jonathan Williams, A-Day, for being named the TOP GUN of 2004. Officer Williams qualified with a combined average of 98 with the revolver and shotgun. We had many shooters who had excellent scores and I know are striving to give Officer Williams some competition in 2005. Good job, Officer Williams!

BIBB recognizes and congratulates the following employees on their promotions: Patricia Brown to Steward III; Cassandra Carlton to Classification Specialist; Alvin Harris to Plant Maintenance Supervisor II, Jessie Johnson to COII; Gerald Tippins to COII; and Laura Hines to ASA II

◆MILITARY

BIBB pays honor and support to our activated service men: Jeffery Huff, Robert Jordan, Allen Knott, Phillip Leach, Clarence Paige, Elishal Pettway, Michael Richards, Ernest Sellers Tony Temple, Steadman Turner, and Brian Walker. We urge you to keep them and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

Birmingham Community Based Facility

◆11 December 2004: COI Cynthia Chiles transferred from Donaldson to Birmingham CBF/CWC.

◆25 December 2004: Edward D. Ellington promoted to Warden at the facility.

◆27 December 2004: Cadet Sandra Brooks assigned to the facility.

◆10 January 2005: COI Chiles attended the 2-week Lateral Entry program at the Corrections Academy in Selma, AL.

◆16 January 2005: Cadet Brooks reported to the Corrections Academy to begin her 11-week academy training.

◆20 January 2005: COI Chiles completed the 2-week Lateral Entry program and she was received her 5th year service pin.

◆05 February 2005: COI Anita Hill transferred from Donaldson and assigned to Birmingham.

◆07 February 2005: Ms. Debra Jones assigned as the Volunteer Chaplain at the facility. Ms. Jones has taught a self-designed course entitled, "Living Life from the Inside Out" to women recently paroled from Birmingham CBF/CWC and Tutwiler to LifeTech Transition Center-Board of Pardons and Paroles in Wetumpka, AL.

◆14 February 2005: Inmates begin utilizing the Law Library at the facility.

◆15-16 February 2005: Captain Patricia Hood attended a Mental Health specialized training session at Tutwiler Prison for Women. Dr. Woodley conducted the two-day course.

Bullock County CF

◆Congratulations to the following staff on receiving service pins:

Capt. Sylvester Nettles - 25 years

Officer Willie Williams - 10 years

◆Graduation ceremonies were held for the Alabama Prison Ministries Institute/ College, Bullock Campus on Dec. 10, 2004. Fifty-five inmates received diplomas in various areas of Christian studies. Special speakers for the ceremony were Troy King, Attorney General and Rev. Ken Draughon, Director of Missions, Alabama District Council of the Assemblies of God. After the ceremony was completed inmates, family members and guest enjoyed a buffet meal and a time of fellowship.

◆The Bullock Corrections Restoration Chapel Education Program Islamic Studies Division held its 3rd Annual commencement ceremony on Jan. 28, 2005. The nineteen commencement participants, family members and guest enjoyed a full day of events beginning with the weekly Jumua Prayer Service conducted by Iman Abeulkarim S. Muhammad of Washington D.C. This was followed by the commencement ceremony with the keynote speaker, The Honorable Minister Maurice Muhammad, Magistrate Birmingham, AL. The day concluded with a delicious buffet meal for all involved.

◆The Staff at Bullock Community Based Facility gave a congratulatory Lucheon to one of their finest, Sgt. Brenda Marcus.

Sgt. Marcus was promoted to Lt at Bullock Correctional Facility. We wish her the best in all her future endeavors.

CONGRADULATIONS LT. BRENDA MARCUS, FROM THE STAFF AT BULLOCK CORRECTIONAL FACILITY!!!!!!!!!!

Camden CBF

◆On 20 DECEMBER 2004, the Youth Ministry of the Camden Baptist Church, along with volunteers from other local churches, presented a Christmas Program for the inmate population at the facility. Approximately 18 church volunteers and 20 inmates participated in the program. After the program the volunteers prepared fruit and snacks for all the inmates and staff at the facility.

Childersburg

◆Childersburg Disciplinary Rehabilitation Unit (Boot Camp) will graduate 38 inmates on February 22. The DRU will intake approximately 85 inmates on February 23rd, for the 180-day program that emphasizes behavior modification through military-style discipline, education and substance abuse counseling.

◆Service pins awarded in February to:

•Sgt. Hubert Etheridge-20 years

•COI Tracy Stevens-10 years

•COI Andre Hardie-10 years.

◆COIs Lovell Simmons and Jeremy Putman have been activated for military service and are on active duty at this time. Please remember them in your thoughts and prayers.

Donaldson Correctional Facility

◆For many years, Donaldson have been sponsoring different families during the Christmas Season. In the past years, the families have been selected through different churches and some through employees that are assigned to Donaldson. This year was a little different. Chaplain Bill Lindsey and Assistant Chaplain David Bucher contacted local schools to find families in need of help at Christmas. The names of three (3) families were given, each having three (3) children. The age range of all the children of the three- (3) families was 3 years to 10 years old. The following employees at Donaldson assisted with obtaining the needed information on these families: Ms. Frankie Higgins was instrumental in contacting each family to get the ages, sizes and Santa Claus wishes for the children. Deputy Warden Rodney Huntley assisted in coordinating the operation and collecting monetary donations from all 3 shifts, to include Classification Personnel, Mental Health Staff, Medical Staff, and Drug Counselors. Captain Jimmie Richburg, Ms. Bonita Johnson and Ms. Neketris Estelle all assisted in the operation by putting up flyers to encourage giving and collecting monetary donations.

In passed years, money was used to purchase specific items for the kids, but this year it was decided that gift cards from Wal-Mart would be ideal for these families. Each child was presented with

a gift card for over \$50.00. One grandparent was so grateful, she brought us a picture of her three grandchildren so everyone could see whom we were giving the gifts to. Captain Joe Tew also took photographs of the presentation of the gift cards (see photos below).



◆On Saturday, January 15, 2005 Donaldson Correctional Facility lost one of its own. Officer Michael Reynolds passed away on this day. Officer Reynolds was employed by the Department of Corrections for a total of 22 years at Donaldson Correctional Facility. Officer Reynolds did not serve the full 22 years of service as a Correctional Officer I. Officer Reynolds has held the positions of Sergeant and Lieutenant and then back to Correctional Officer I. Officer Reynolds was first diagnosed with bladder cancer and then bone cancer. Officer Reynolds' long suffering has ended and he is in a better resting-place with no more pain. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Officer Reynolds. YOU WILL BE MISSED.

◆Officer Charles Dean was nominated Officer of the Quarter for the last quarter of the year 2004

(October – December). Congratulations to Officer Dean for a job well done.

Draper Correctional Facility

◆Congratulations!, Jeffery Williams, Warden II has been promoted as the Community Corrections Program Director

◆Congratulations and Best Wishes , Edward Hardison, Classification Supervisor, left department and joined ADEM staff as an Attorney

◆Congratulations for 25 years to service and retirement of Sgt. John Baulch, DCC Trade School and Officer Charlie Jones (CJ), Backgate officer

◆Welcome Officers Timothy Whetstone and Roddic Johnson who transferred from Bullock and Easterling Correctional Facilities.

◆Twenty-seven candidates under the supervisor of Mrs. Smith, completed 6-month Crime Bill Program with Montgomery District Court Judge Peggy Givhan as the guest speaker.

◆Mrs. Boyd and Ms. Wheeler also completed another 8 weeks of ISAP.

◆Please keep the families of all deceased members of our officers, sergeant, Captain and Warden in your prayers: COI Willie Baker, COI Jancie Rogers, COI John Guilford, COI Greg and Eric Easter, Sgt. Logan, Capt. Womble and Warden DeLoach.

◆Congratulations to the following for receiving service pins:

5 years—Fred Brown, Account Clerk

10 years—Officer Frank Allen who is deployed

15 years—Officers Sharon Cunningham, Paula Burke, Ethel Smith

20 years—Officer Greg Easter and Lt. Gwendolyn Tarrance

25 years—Officer Harvey Stanton and Chaplain Willie Whiting

Easterling CF

◆Congratulations to the following employees: Supervisor of the Quarter—COI Phelix Woods Officer of the Quarter—COI James Merritt

Employee of the Quarter—ASAI Denetrius Butler

◆We salute Easterling's Account Clerk, Myra Peters on her recognition as the ADOC Clerical Employee of 2004.

◆COI Michael Wallace received the Top Gun Award for 2004 from the Academy.

◆Service Pins:

25 Year Service Pin—COI James Browder

15 Year Service Pins—Johnnie Matthews (Laundry Manager); Maxine Rhodes (Radio Operator); William Singer (Radio Operator); Linda Wilkinson (Personnel Assistant I); Sandra Hayes (Classification Specialist); COI Isaac Baxter; COI Joel Tew; COI Randy Daniels; COI Daron Fayson

10 Year Service Pins—COI Michael Blackmon;

COI Linda Glenn; COI Darrell Bell; COI Curtis James.

5 Year Service Pins—COI Derek Portwood; COI Frederick Jones; COI Steven Coleman

◆Easterling welcomes Christopher Robinson as our new Drug Treatment Counselor. Mr. Robinson had previously worked as an intern from Troy University.

◆Congratulations to Lt. Kenneth Sconyers on his promotion to Captain. A host of Easterling Employees celebrated his promotion at Grandmaw's Kitchen in Brundidge.

Easterling employees again prove to have a giving spirit, making Christmas special for three families this year. In the photo below, Ms. Hayes, Ms. Adkins, Ms. Greene, Ms. Wilson, Mr. Barrow, COI Campbell, & Mr. Mitchell prepare to deliver gifts to the adopted families.

Elba Community Based Facility



◆Elba CBF held its annual Christmas luncheon which was enjoyed by all. Warden Foster presented volunteer Chaplain B.J. McCullagh with a plaque for his outstanding service and dedication at Elba CBF. Chaplain McCullagh has been the volunteer chaplain at Elba Work release for 18 years (photo above).

◆Warden Foster presented Annelle Hayes with her 15 year service pin (photo top next column).

◆Warden Foster presented COI Mary Bowens, a certificate for being selected as employee of the quarter for the 4th quarter (photo next column).



Elmore Correctional Center

◆Elmore welcomes Warden III, Willie Thomas, who came to us from Staton Correctional Center February 7, 2005. Warden Thomas is not a stranger to a lot of us as he was previously at Elmore as a Warden II. Mr. Thomas began his career with the Department of Corrections in 1979 as a Trainee at Staton. He went to Staton Annex (Elmore) to help get it opened and stayed for about a year and a half. Warden Thomas was promoted to Sergeant and then Lieutenant at Frank Lee. In 1985, Mr. Thomas was promoted to Captain at Draper and he remained there until 1993 when he was promoted to Warden II at Ventress. As Warden II, Mr. Thomas worked at Ventress, Fountain, Staton and Elmore. Warden Thomas was promoted to Warden III at Fountain in 1998 and returned to Staton as Warden III in March of 2000.

◆We had an excellent Christmas luncheon at Brown's Buffet in Prattville, December 7, 2004. The food was delicious and the fellowship was festive. The Christmas spirit continued through the holidays with a "sweets" finger food day. The employees joined together bringing homemade goodies to feast upon all during the day.

◆Elmore has five trainees in the Academy with graduation scheduled in March. We welcome Patrick Carter, a new cadet, who came to Elmore February 7, 2005.

◆COI Gomer Burden transferred to Montgomery as a transfer agent becoming effective 2/19/2005. Before leaving, Officer Burden was presented with his 15 year pin. COI Paul Lauster was presented

with his 5-year pin, COI Kathy Daniels was presented with her 20-year pin and Susan Acreman, Personnel Assistant, was presented with her 25-year pin. Congratulations to all of you for the dedication and hard work you have shown.

◆On December 17, 2004, the moment arrived for the awarding of the ASEA sponsored trip to Phoenix, Arizona. Elmore had two people, Carolyn Carter and Jackie Cooper, win the trip to Phoenix. Jackie Cooper and Carolyn Carter left for Phoenix on the morning of January 7, 2005. Due to the new regulations at the airport, they faced a few problems. First, Carolyn's luggage was overweight. Ms. Cooper came to the rescue by putting Carolyn's make up in her bag. At the security checkpoint, Carolyn beeped as she went through the metal detector. She was instructed to remove her shoes and she again beeped. At this point security was standing with her. She was moved to several locations and then informed that she would have to be physically searched. Ms. Cooper was almost rolling on the floor with laughter as Carolyn was taken off to be searched. The airport authority concluded that Ms. Carter's bracelets were the culprits. Once on the airplane, the trip was wonderful. They met many nice people and enjoyed the conference very much, including the visit to the Federal Prison. There was time for sightseeing and shopping and they did a lot of both.

◆Ms. Cooper and Ms. Carter want to thank the Commissioner and the Department of Corrections for such a wonderful trip.

◆Easterling employees again prove to have a giving spirit, making Christmas special for three families this year. Ms. Hayes, Ms. Adkins, Ms. Greene, Ms. Wilson, Mr. Barrow, COI Campbell, and Mr. Mitchell prepare to deliver gifts to the adopted families as seen in the photo below.

Frank Lee Youth Center

◆On December 13, 2004, Mrs. Brittney Strong joined the team of professionals at Frank Lee Youth Center as the new Canteen Clerk. Mrs. Strong is a welcome addition.

◆On January 15, 2005, Officer Robert Carr completed 15 years of dedicated service with the ADOC. Congratulations Mr. Carr.

◆On January 29, 2005, Officer Melissa Crawford reached her 15-year milestone with the ADOC. Keep up the good work.

◆On February 5, 2005, Officer Kenneth McMahon reached his 15-year milestone with the ADOC. Hang in there, Officer McMahon.

◆On February 11, 2005 Mr. Bill Evans' SAP class graduated. Congratulations Mr. Evans on a job well done.

◆On February 17, 2005, Mr. Doug Farris' SAP

class graduated. Congratulations Mr. Farris on a job well done.



Capt. Burton (left), COI Thomas, & COI McMahon.



COI Robert Carr (left)



COI Melissa Crawford (left)

◆On February 19, 2005, Mr. Mark Syck joined Frank Lee Youth Center as the Maintenance & Repair Supervisor. Mr. Syck is a welcome addition to the team of professionals, here, at Frank Lee Youth Center.

◆On February 25, 2005, Captain Horace Burton, Jr. completed 20 years of dedicated service with the ADOC. Keep on pushing.

◆On February 28, 2005, Officer Christopher Thomas reached his 20-year milestone with the ADOC. We appreciate you.

Fountain Correctional Facility

The Fountain Staff recently honored Sgt. Douglas McCurdy and Sgt. Luck Chambers with a retirement luncheon. The 6 to 2 Team officers coordinated the event. Sgt. McCurdy retired Feb. 1. Sgt. Luck Chambers will retire April 1. Both Sgt. McCurdy and Sgt. Chambers have provided this Department with more than 25 years of credible service.

◆Officer Hiram Linton and an inmate work crew continue to install metal roofs on many of the buildings that were damaged by Hurricane Ivan. Officer Linton has completed the J.O. Davis Unit roof, the J.O. Davis Chapel roof, the Asst. Wardens' Duplex, and the Fountain Clubhouse to this point. Officer Linton's expertise is saving the G.K. Fountain/J.O. Davis thousands of dollars.

◆The Fountain K-9 unit has two volunteers currently working with Search Party Handler Mickey Mustin. Sgt. Deion Wasdin, Training Division, and Sgt. Joe Fralick, Holman, are currently on temporary assignment with the unit.

◆The 711th Signal Battalion National Guard Unit from Atmore has returned home from Iraq. We are proud to have our staff returning to us. Officer Randall Lucas was the first to return to work. The remainder of the unit will be returning within the next month or two.

◆Employee Awards for November:

Officer Month - Melvin Hetzel

Support Employee of the Month - Jo Edeker

◆Employee Awards for December:

Officer of the Month - Deborah Sanders

Support Employee of the Month - Mary Arnold

◆Sgt. Steven Lane was selected for Supervisor of the Quarter

◆The farm security staff continues to assist the City of Atmore with debris from Hurricane Ivan. We are also planting pine trees in areas where Ivan devastated mature timber.

◆Fountain currently has 7 cadets in the Training Academy. We have a Laundry Manager vacancy and a Radio Operator vacancy.

Hamilton A&I

◆Hamilton A & I would like to welcome Ms. Felisha Autery as the new Account Clerk.

◆Our congratulations to Officer Daniel Lynch who was promoted to Sergeant and is doing a fine job.

◆Officer James Fawcett will be retiring effective March 1st, ...Best Wishes on his retirement.

◆Welcome to Officer James Holcomb from Limestone CF.

◆Congratulations to Officer Jamie Williams and family on the birth of their son, Hudson O'bryan born on 2/7/05, 8 lb 11 oz.

◆Best wishes to Sgt. J.G. Boyett who retired

with 25 years of service on January 1st, 2005! We sure have missed him!

Hamilton CBF

◆HCBF welcomes Mrs. Lisa Talley, who was hired effective 12-13-04, to fill vacant Account Clerk position, created by an earlier retirement.

◆Sgt. Gary Willingham retired from HCBF effective 01-01-05, after 21 years with the Department, with a total of approximately 38 years State Service. There was a Retirement Party held for him on 12-22-04 at the Facility.

◆As a result of Sgt. Willingham retirement, COI Barry Holland was promoted to COII, effective 02-08-05, and assumed the duties of the Third Shift, Shift Commander. Congratulations to both Sgt. Willingham and Sgt. Holland!

◆Officer Ronald Causey will transfer to HCBF effective 02-05-05, to fill the vacancy left by Sgt. Holland's promotion. Officer Causey comes to us from Bibb CF.

◆Capt. Larry Floyd became a new grandpa of a healthy baby girl on 01-25-05. Congratulations to Capt Floyd!

◆During the month of January, we have also remodeled a building housing a TV Room and chapel, to create a multi-purpose room, storage room and inmate library.

Kilby Correctional Facility

◆A blood drive is being held in Honor and Support of Lt. Tchernavia Blackmon. We wish her the best and our prayers are with her as she fights her illness.

◆Congratulations to Angela Lawson for being selected Support Personnel of the Quarter. Angela filled in for Stephanie Atchison during her absence as Classification Supervisor.

◆Thanks to Flavorous Ray, Mary Holmes, and Roberta Crenshaw for helping out at Central Records. Kilby is always eager to help and assist the department any way we can.

◆Kilby is in the process of starting a G.E.D program. This should be very advantageous to inmates trying to better themselves when they are paroled or released.

◆We welcome Sgt. Kenneth Cash from the SIR Program. Sgt. Cash is a former Kilby Officer and Sgt. He was away for a short while working with the SIR Program. Welcome back!

Limestone Correctional Facility

◆The following personnel received service pins:
5 Years—Andrew Donaldson, COI; Allen Nathan, COI.

10 Years—Kenneth Cossey, COI; James Green,

COI; Sidney Oden, COI; Michelle Pettay, COSI; Donnie Sims, ASA I; Linda Crews, Canteen Manager
15 Years—Danny Alverson, COI; Veronica Moore, COI; Willie Owens, COI; Mark Reeves, COI; Wess Smith, COII.

20 Years—Gregory Brown, COI; Patrick Robinson, COSII; Willie Siler, COSI; Edward Miller, COI; Sam Mitchell, COI.

◆Congratulations to the Employees of the Quarter, 2004 -- 4th Qtr.

Security—Christopher Seger

Support—Nancy Whitacre

◆Congratulations to the following:

Stephen Langford—promoted to Sergeant

Anthony Fleming—promoted to Sergeant

◆Limestone honors the following employees who are serving our country in the military:

Gregory Whaley, COI; Ronald McGlothlin, COI; Ollie Prince, COI; Gary Houston, COI; Mark Reeves, COI; Brian Broadfoot, COI; Joseph Britt, COI; Arthur Edwards, COI; Steven Chenault, COI; Teddy Custard, COI; Clifford Hughes, COI.

◆Limestone Correctional Facility welcomes Drug Treatment Counselors Willie Bell, David Battle and Jennifer Ford, Clerk.

◆Limestone Correctional Facility wishes to thank Whitney Allen (ASEA) and Martha Sutton (PEBSCO) for the pizza lunch on January 20, 2005.

◆Limestone Correctional Facility is mourning the loss of COI Eric Todd. Officer Todd completed his earthly journey January 22, 2005. Survivors included his wife of two years Yolanda Todd (also a COI), one step-son Aubrey Bethea, two sons - twins Eric Todd and Michael Todd. In addition to these survivors, his LCF Family survives Officer Todd. He started his Corrections career November 4, 2002 and quickly gained the respect of his fellow Officers and employees as he performed his duties in an admirable manner. At the time of his death, Officer Todd was regarded as a true professional, showing firmness and fairness with whom he came in contact with. When Officer Todd was laid to rest, the Limestone Correctional Facility C.E.R.T. served as pallbearers.

Loxley CWC/WR

◆Officer Maezette Calhoun was welcomed to the Loxley staff. Officer Calhoun transferred from Holman on January 22, 2005.

◆Perfect Attendance Awards for 2004 were presented to Officers Dwain Bradshaw, George Crenshaw, Bryan Finch, Henry Gardner, Gerald Moore, Kenneth Tyus, Plant Maintenance Supervisor David Kirby, Sergeants James Riley and Randall White, Lieutenants Cheryl Jackson and Syletta January

and Captain Gary Hetzel. The award recipients represented 33% of the total staff at Loxley CWC/WR who did not take any sick leave during the year.

◆Warden Reynolds attended the American Corrections Association Conference in Phoenix, Arizona.

◆During the December 2004 monthly Work Site Meeting, Ms. Michelle Smith, Alabama State Employees Association (ASEA) representative, presented the benefits of being an ASEA member and she had information available to pick up after the meeting and to answer any questions. Mr. Keith McGraw, Retirement Specialist with Nationwide Retirement Solutions (PEBSCO) spoke on the deferred compensation program and he had information available to pick up after the meeting and to answer questions.

◆First Shift was responsible for the monthly Work Site Meeting training for the staff in attendance. Officer Rouse presented Administrative Regulation 403 – Disciplinary Hearing Procedures for major rule violations.

◆On December 11, 2004 Loxley CWC/WR was tasked to transport and receive 53 community custody inmates as part of the overall plan for the transition of Atmore Work Release to Atmore Community Work Center. The Loxley staff was commended for the effective and efficient transition. Through planning, logistics, and hard work the staff transferred the inmates, their property, provided computer data entries, orientated, reviewed institutional files, maintained inmate job employment in Escambia County within a few hours on a Saturday and made it look easy.

◆Appreciation is extended to the facility kitchen stewards for consistently maintaining the lowest raw food cost of all ADOC facilities and the job placement officers for consistently maintaining the highest inmate gross salaries and contributions to the ADOC from those wages.

◆The November 2004 Work Site Meeting was preceded with a Thanksgiving feast for employees. The facility stewards prepared a delicious meal with all the trimmings which was enjoyed by all the employees in attendance. Second Shift was responsible for the monthly Work Site Meeting training for the staff in attendance. Officer Bonner presented an overview of Leadership Training.

◆Loxley Community Work Center/Work Release monthly Work Site Meeting was held on January 27, 2005. The meeting was preceded with an employee appreciation luncheon prepared by the facility stewards. As usual, the facility stewards did an excellent job with a very nice meal for the employees.

◆Third Shift was responsible for the monthly Work Site Meeting Training for the staff in attendance. Officer Jenkins presented Administrative Regulation 440 – Inmate Drug Screening.



Mobile Work Release



◆In the fall of 2004, Officer William Powell III completed all required classes in The American Sign Language Program at Bishop State Community College. He is presently pursuing certification in Deaf Interpretations.

◆Mrs. Pheres Pickett, Mobile Work Release GED Education Coordinator, presented (NCTE) The National Council Teacher Educator 16th Africa American Read In for Black History Month. The program was presented to the inmates during their February 18, 2005 AA meeting. It was the 3rd year that the program was held at Mobile Work Release. It was a great program. The Drug Treatment Department held it's 4th Annual History -Family Day Program on February 26, 2004. It was a fun day for all.

◆The Supervision of Inmates Work Squad Near Roadway Orientation /Refresher Course was held

on February 2, 2005. There were fifteen non-departmental supervisors in attendance. These supervisors represented thirteen agencies from the Mobile/Baldwin County area. On February 11, 2005, another refresher session was held for three non-departmental Supervisors representing two agencies. The next orientation session is being planned for the month of May 2005. Sgt. Addine Gulley was the instructor.



◆Mobile Work Release held it's monthly staff meeting on February 4, 2005. Our theme was 'Getting Ready for Mardi Gras' and 'Let the Good Times Roll'. The meeting was complete with food and Mardi Gras decorations.

Montgomery Community Work Center

◆Retirements:

COI Mary King retiring effective March 01, 2005 after 25 years with ADOC.

COI David Ferrell retiring April 2005 after 25 years with ADOC.

◆Congratulations to the following personnel who received service pins:

COI Clarence Kimbrough - 25 years

COI Debra Holmes - 20 years

Chief Steward Nathaniel Fallin - 15 years

◆Officer Clarence Kimbrough received recognition as MCWC Officer of the Quarter for the 4th Quarter 2004.

◆Installation of a new Boiler System supporting the MCWC kitchen and inmate dormitory was recently completed.

Red Eagle Honor Farm

◆Warden C. E. Boutwell presented Sgt. Gus White his 25-year service pin during the staff meeting on February 16, 2005. Sgt. White (Gus) attended the University of Alabama and played Nose Guard for Coach Paul "Bear" Bryant and was voted to the all decade team of the 70's. Gus' children are entitled to attend the University of Alabama "free" under the Paul "Bear" Bryant scholarship program estab-



lished for all Alabama letterman. Gus' daughter just returned from a visit to Mississippi State where she was offered a scholastic scholarship. While there Gus visited with long-time friend, teammate at Alabama, and new Head Football Coach at MSU Sylvester "Sly" Groom. (See photo above.)

◆Warden Boutwell has two grandsons who were recently activated in the US Army National Guard. Both are trained in Artillery/Missiles Guidance Systems using computer controls. However, as the military are diverse in their abilities, both are somewhere between Kuwait and Baghdad. One driving a Hummer and other a gunner. Their home base will be 30 clicks South of Baghdad.

◆Red Eagle has three new employees: Officer Alfonzo Franklin, who transferred from Bullock Correctional Facility, Officer Michael Freeney who transferred from Bullock Correctional Facility and Officer Jerry Odom who transferred from Holman.

◆Red Eagle has two officer activated. Officer Brandon Rayborn (US Army) and Officer Jerome Powell (USAF). Sgt. Jimmy Taylor returned from activation with the US Coast Guard after a year service.

◆Mrs. Vicki Hopson, ASAIL will be leaving Red Eagle on March 4, 2005 to accept another position at the State Employees Insurance Board. Lt. J. Michael Haynes will be retiring on April 1, 2005 after 25 years service.

St. Clair Correctional Facility

◆The outside squads worked clearing Hwy I-59 and area roadways. They also built a second floor on the Pleasant Hill Fire Department. They cleared 20 acres for preparation to plant pine trees for Industries. The squads assisted the Army National Guard by moving the Oneonta Armory to another location. The squads totally renovated a duplex for the new training center at St Clair.

◆Ms Jennifer Davis, with the Correctional Peace Officers' Foundation, presented assistance checks to COI Danny Elliot and COI Andres Marciano due to medical situations with family members.

◆The Red Cross conducted a successful blood drive at St Clair.

◆Congratulations to the St Clair Business Office. Their latest audit revealed zero deficiencies. We appreciate their outstanding performance of duty. The office and canteen consists of Business Manager Lisa Tucker, Lydia Peoples, Latisha Hawkins, Darlene Humphrey, Mikki Woody and Mary Payne.

◆We welcome LT Karen Carter and SGT Terry Raybon to the new training center at St Clair.

◆We honor the following St Clair employees serving their country: Search Party Dog Handler Darrel Holt, Lt Joseph Headley, COIs Van Posey, Joshua Stewart, Jimmy Callahan, Michael Lindsey, Daniel Turner, Billy Warren, Jerry Puckett, Dillon Ondo, Bryan Chapman, Dennis Stefaniak, and Corey Martin.

◆Ms Betty Derrick retired with 10 years of State service. Plant Maintenance Supervisor II, Tom Cornish, retired with 21 years of service. COI Jackie Jimmerson retired with 20 years of service.

◆Congratulations to Lt David Bracknell for being awarded the Security Person of the Year for DOC. We commend him for his outstanding accomplishments and work ethic. Congratulations to COI Mamie George for being selected Security Employee of the Quarter and Ms Deborah Gardner for Support Employee of the Quarter. A luncheon at Red Lobster was conducted to reward them for their outstanding accomplishments. Also, Ms Latisha Hawkins was selected as the Support Employee of the Year and COI Ples Wilkins was selected as Security Employee of the Year for St Clair. A luncheon was held at the Olive Garden to reward their accomplishments.

◆Sarah LeAnn Guthery, a 5th grade student at Westbrook Christian School in Gadsden, Alabama has qualified to participate in the 4th - 5th Grade Talent Search sponsored by Duke University Talent Identification Program. This talent search is aimed at students who possess high academic ability.

Her proud father is CO I Charles M. Guthery, St. Clair Correctional Facility.



Jackie Jimmerson, COI—Retirement January 2005.



Ples Wilkins, COI—Security-Employee of the Year 2004.



Mamie George, COI—Security-Employee of the Quarter, January-March 2005.



Sgt. Trent Bartlett—Promotion to Assistant Search Party Dog Handler 2005.



Deborah Gardner, Classification Specialist—Support -Employee of the Quarter June-March 2005.



Lt. David Bracknell—Security Personnel of the Year 2005.

**The Shortest Sentence
Is "I Am."**

THE LONGEST IS "I DO."



Latisha Hawkins, Account Clerk—Support-Employee of the Year 2005.



Betty Derrick, ASAIL —Retirement Jan. 2005.

Staton Correctional Facility

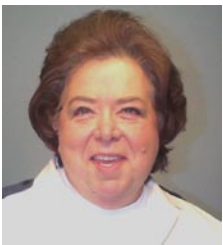
◆Staton Correctional Facility and the Department of Corrections says farewell to one of its truly "Greatest Assets".

◆Ms. Faye Henry (photo below), Classification Supervisor retired after 28 years of dedicated service to the Department of Corrections. Ms. Henry has worked for many Wardens and they all can attest to the dedication and proficiency exhibited by her. Ms. Henry's loyalty to the department will truly be missed.

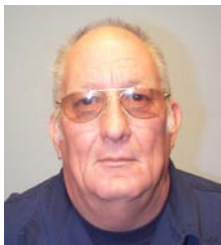


Ms. Faye Henry, Classification Supervisor—28 yrs service.

◆Other Retirees from Staton:



B. Arlene Watson, 26 yrs.



Clifford Cartwright, 27 yrs.

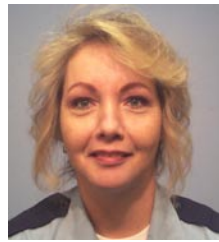


James Wilson, 17 yrs.

◆Service Pins were issued to the following Staton employees:



Warden Willie Thomas, 25 yrs.



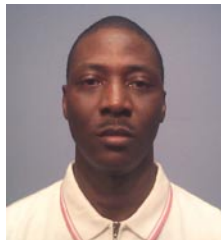
COI L. Tiller, 20 yrs.



Lt. W. Copeland, 15 yrs.



COI B. LaFogg, 15 yrs.



COI H. Thomas, 15 yrs.



COI R. Rawlinson, 15 yrs.



Steward, N. Motley, 5 yrs.

◆Certificates of Appreciation were awarded to employees at Staton Correctional Facility for not using any sick leave during the 2004 year. Those recipients were – Lt. Copeland, Sgt. M. Lee, Sgt. R. Golden, Sgt. T. Jenkins, R. Besteder, C. Carter, F. Grant, C. Jones, J. Lindsey, J. Miller, D. Nobles, S. Pollard, Y. Ray, D. Rollins, G. Smith, V. Lawrence.

◆Outstanding Service Certificates were awarded to Mr. R. Besteder, Drug Treatment Counselor, and Ms. A. Reid, Drug Program Specialist.

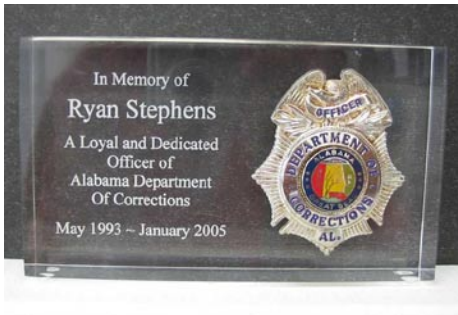
◆Supervisor of the quarter was awarded to Sgt. G. Givens, Officer of the quarter – COI Charles Carter, and Employee of the quarter – Ms. Terry Roberts.

◆Congratulations to Warden Leon Forniss on his promotion to Warden III at Staton Corr. Facility.

Tutwiler Prison for Women

◆On December 10, 2004, Warden Gladys Deese held an Employee's Appreciation luncheon. This luncheon was for all employees who work at Julia Tutwiler Prison for Women to include Prison Health Services and Mental Health Management. It was a great success with contributions from local businesses of Wetumpka, Alabama. The following businesses donated door prizes: Elizabeth Bath and Body, Wal-Mart Store #1101, Smart Cuts, China Garden, Regions Bank, Colonial Bank, Alabama Employee's Credit Union, Food World, Prison Health Services, Mental Health Management, Riverside Chevy Dealership, ADOC academy, ACI, Catfish Country, Special Friends of Corrections, Austin's Flowers and Adams Drugs. We had drawings for 70 door prizes.





◆On January 20, 2005, Officer Ryan Stephens of Julia Tutwiler Prison passed away. The Staff of Tutwiler presented Stephens' family with a plaque with Officer Stephens' badge embedded in the plaque.

◆The following employees received service pins:
25 years—Sergeant Juanita Davidson
20 years—Officer Vaunita Jackson; Officer Samuel Foster.

15 years—Officer Cynthia Mason; Mrs. Sharon Chadwell.

5 years—Steward William Otto; Officer John Moore; Officer Felisha Blanding; Officer LaGreco Sankey.

◆Tutwiler Prison is still housing female inmates in South Louisiana Correctional Center in Basile, Louisiana. We send weekly monitors to Louisiana to monitor the inmates.

Ventress

◆Congratulations to Mr. Mark Bruton on his recent promotion and appointment as Classifications Supervisor. Mr. Bruton was formerly a Classification Specialist a Bullock County Correctional Facility. He replaced Mrs. Donna Edwards, who transferred to Central Records.

◆Congratulations to Officer Jimmy Thomas (2nd Shift) for winning the ASEA door prize.

◆Ventress presently has (2) two officers still serving active duty for the "Iraqi Freedom Force".

Robert Merritt (3rd Shift)

Bertha Dozier (1st Shift)

◆Farewell to Officer Anthony Bailey (ICS), who recently resigned after 15 years of service. Officer Bailey is presently attending the Alabama State Troopers Academy in Selma. We wish him mud tuck and success in his future.

◆Please keep the following employees in prayer:

•Jan. 30, 2005 Mr. Mark Smittterman's (AOI Chairplant) father, Mr. Gordon Smithernian sustained severe injuries in a car accident.

•Feb. 11, 2005 Mr. Jeff Cooper's (Tradeschool) father passed away.

•Feb. 13, 2005 Officer David Kennedy's (2nd Shift) wife, LaDonna Kennedy, was placed on life support due to complications with her cancer-related illness.

◆Birth Announcements:

•Jan. 06, 2005 Officer Dorein Robbins' 1st grandchild was born "Bryant Donta Robbins, Jr."

•Feb. 14, 2005 Mary Allen (Drug Treatment) 7~ grandchild baby "Ryder" was born.

◆During the month of December, Officer Reginald Baker's (2nd Shift) children's home sustained fire damage. And Officer Darius Lewis' (1st Shift) parents' home also sustained fire damage during the Christmas holidays

◆Officer Cedric Baker (2nd Shift) recently loss

his home and property due to a house fire.

◆Congratulations, Captain M. Larry Monk for being Training Region #06 & VCF-Overall Top Score & Top Gun.

◆Congratulations, Officer Robert Culpepper for his appointment as Back-up Bus Squad Officer.

◆Congratulations, Officer Grade Dennis for the completion of the Drug Test Training Session and the recent appointment as Back-up Drug Testing Officer.

BLOOD DRIVE SUPPORT AT KILBY

To show our support for Lt. Blackmon who is struggling with cancer and was just released from the hospital from a stroke, we asked all ADOC employees to please come to Kilby and donate blood. She is dedicated to her 2nd shift employees, Kilby and the ADOC. She has pushed herself extremely hard to prove that she can handle her job responsibilities and her illness. She does not ask for special consideration other than to adjust her schedule where she can continue to work before and after her treatments.

We showed our support for a courageous woman! Everyone who donated to this drive showed her that we will be there for her when and if she ever needs any blood. Cards were available for all donors to sign. She is well known throughout the department since she has worked at Bibb, Bullock, Limestone, Holman, and Fountain.

The American Red Cross Blood Drive was held at Kilby on Thursday, February 24, 2005, in Honor and Support for Lt. Tchernavia Blackmon. There were many calls from supporters of Lt. Blackmon wanting to give, but had various reasons for not being available on that date.

39 pints of LOVE were donated plus there were many others who tried but could not due to illness.

We were told that contributions were being made to the Red Cross from some of those who could not donate in support of Lt. Blackmon.

Reaching Retirement

When you reach retirement your mind is flooded with memories of past events in your career and the people you have met along the way.

I have had a fantastic 25 years with the ADOC, well except for a couple of years filled with "bumps and bruises".

Yet, those difficult times do not overshadow the joys I have experienced and the great people I have worked with.

I have worked for the best supervisors that one could ask for who really treat their employees like they are the number one asset of the ADOC.

Directors' of Training; Bill Long, Charles Wood, Gladys Deese, Mike Waters, Wendy Williams, Wardens' James Deloach, Archie Garrett, Pat Halliday and Lt. Joseph Raines.

I want to thank my personal "consigliers", Captain Robert Simmons and Lt. Eric Teske for always being there when I needed them.

I will miss the academy staff most of all. They were first co-workers, then friends and eventually family. The ADOC is very fortunate to have such an outstanding group of individuals to provide the first impressions of the ADOC to the new recruits.

Aida and I will continue to live in Gadsden, but will be spending more time in Venezuela with her family. NOW THAT'S RETIREMENT!

I wish all of you success in your careers and the best in life!

Yours in Corrections,

Lt. Quinton W. Beard/QuintonAida@comcast.net

PROMOTIONS & TRANSFERS

I am pleased to announce the following promotions and transfers:

•LEON FORNISS has been selected for promotion to Warden III at the Elmore Correctional Facility effective 2-5-05. Mr. Forniss is a graduate of Alabama State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice. He also has a Master's Degree in Criminal Justice from Troy State University. Leon Forniss has 27 years of service with the State of Alabama, all with the Department of Corrections. He began his career as a COI at the Montgomery Work Release Center where he was also promoted to COII. He served as a COII for the SIR program and was then promoted to Work Release Director at Camden Work Release Center. Mr. Forniss later transferred back to Montgomery Work Release as a Warden I.

From there he was promoted to Warden II at Frank Lee Youth Center and then laterally transferred to Staton as Warden II.

•WARDEN WILLIE THOMAS, after four years and 10 months of dedicated service at Staton C.F., will transfer to Elmore C.F. effective 2-5-05. Warden III Leon Forniss will become Warden at Staton C.F. also effective 2-5-05.

•WARDEN JEFFERY WILLIAMS has been selected as the Community Corrections Programs Director.

Jeff is a graduate of Alabama State University. He was first employed by the Alabama Department of Corrections in November of 1980 as a Correctional Counselor Trainee at the Draper Correctional Facility. After completing the Corrections Academy, he was appointed as a Correctional Counselor I.

In May of 1982, Jeff was reclassified as a Correctional Officer I. In May of 1984 he transferred to the Kilby Correctional Facility. Following a transfer to the SIR program, in January of 1986 he was promoted to Correctional Officer II. In July of 1990 he was promoted to Correctional Officer Supervisor I at Staton Correctional Facility. Following a transfer to the Montgomery Work Release Center in 1996, Jeff was promoted to Correctional Warden I in September 1998. He was subsequently promoted to Warden II in July of 2002 at the Draper Correctional Center.

Please join me in supporting Warden Williams, Warden Thomas and Warden Forniss in their new assignments. Congratulations to all of you!

Donal Campbell,
Commissioner

Cont'd Articles:

cont'd from pg 3: Prison Crowding Defies.....

roles, said that reduced the average number of parolees per officer from almost 200 to around 155.

"That's still double what it should be," she said, "but we're in a lot better shape than we were."

Parole officers said their experiences have mirrored the statistics.

Monica Norwood, a parole officer in the Mobile office, said her caseload shot up to 235 after parolees from the special docket started getting out of prison in 2003.

With that many people to supervise, Norwood said, she had to work nights and weekends just to fit in all of the appointments. And, she said, the crunch limited face-to-face contacts to only the most cursory chats.

"It was like, 'Hey, how are you doing? Hi. See you next month,'" she said.

Norwood said 75 parolees would be an ideal number but added that her current caseload -- around 150 -- is manageable.

Carl Wicklund, executive director of the Lexington, Ky.-based American Probation and Parole Association, said caseload matters far less than workload.

The important question, he said, is what are parole officers expected to do? An officer with low-risk parolees who have had stable jobs can supervise many more people than an officer with high-risk offenders.

In general, though, Wicklund said, parole becomes less effective with higher caseloads.

"If you have a doctor with 150 cancer patients to see in a month or even a week, how good a job is he going to do? ... A hundred and fifty, if you assume these are people just coming out of prison and need a lot of support, that's huge," he said. "It's going to become much more of an administrative function. ... (Parole officers) should ideally be agents of change."

Tapley, the former court system administrator, said he believes the Board of Pardons and Paroles remains understaffed and underfunded even after the recent increases. That's shortsighted, he said, because there is no cheaper way to deal with criminals.

"That's the most important thing we haven't done," he said. "It works historically. It works in every state. And it's common sense."

The early results of the special program show that fewer of the inmates cut loose under it have committed new crimes than ex-cons as a whole. Despite those encouraging statistics, Board of Pardons and Paroles Director William Segrest decried major gaps in community-based, substance-abuse treat-

ment and mental-health programs.

"Those programs are absolutely critical," he said. "They're not there now, not in nearly sufficient numbers."

Devane, who serves on the board of directors at Shepherds Fold, a group of five halfway houses in the Birmingham area, agreed.

"I don't think there are enough of them, and I think there is a need for halfway houses that can take guys for a longer period of time," he said. "Four months, for a lot of people, isn't quite enough."

Devane said the first few months out of prison are key. When ex-cons fail, it's usually during that period. He said counselors at the Shepherds Fold halfway houses concentrate on helping participants beat lingering substance-abuse addictions, find jobs and reconnect with the community.

He said they also try to get them comfortable with living without the strict, regimented structure of prison.

"The financial pressures can be pretty significant, especially if an inmate doesn't have a family," Devane said. "Prison becomes home. And when you're leaving home, it gets pretty rough."

*View past and present
Corrections News
newsletters
Online @
www.doc.state.al.us*

Articles or suggestions for
Corrections News
are invited.

They should be addressed to:

**Brian Corbett,
Public Information Officer
Department of Corrections
301 South Ripley Street
Montgomery AL 36104**

BCorbett@doc.state.al.us

RED EAGLE is a working facility and as such, it is sometimes necessary that you get down and dirty to complete the task at hand. If you are considering an assignment at Red Eagle (WORKING) Honor Farm as a Farm Squad Officer please review the picture of our #1 Farm Squad Officer, Mr. Keith Braswell.

PS: And you have to fill these boots!!!!!!



DCBF/DCWC 3RD ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT



TUESDAY, MAY 17, 2005

VALLEY LANDING GOLF COURSE

•8:00 A.M. REGISTRATION

•9:00 A.M. SHOTGUN START

2 Man Scramble

Contests For:

• Longest Drive •Closest To Pin

**TWO MAN TEAMS BLIND DRAW TO BE DRAWN TOURNEY DAY.
YOU MAY PRE-REGISTER OR REGISTER DAY OF TOURNAMENT.**

TOURNAMENT FEE: \$35.00 PER GOLFER—INCLUDES MEAL & CART.

**TOURNEY OPEN TO ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT
ADOC EMPLOYEES AND THE COMMUNITY**

If you plan to attend please notify by May 1, 2005 so that an accurate count of player may be obtained.
Contact:

Warden B. Carter/Sgt. S. Carroll
DCBF/DCWC
P.O. Box 5279
Decatur, AL 35601
PH: 256-350-0876
FAX: 256-350-0971

**VALLEY LANDING GOLF COURSE IS LOCATED IN
COURTLAND, AL
256-637-8735**

From the South – take 1-65 N to Exit 334/AL-67 Exit, turn left onto AL 67 N, travel 10.7 miles to AL 20W/US-72ALT/Joe Wheeler Ave, turn left, go approx. 20.3 miles, there will be a sign on left "Industrial Airport" with "Valley Landing Golf Course" sign under it, Turn Left, go .8 miles and turn left at 1st road, proceed to clubhouse.

From the North – travel to Decatur on 565 or Hwy 31, turn right at river bridge onto AL 20W/US-72AL, travel 23.8 miles, there will be a sign on left "Industrial Airport" and "Valley Landing Golf Course", turn left, go .8 miles to 1st road on left, turn left and go to the clubhouse.